



## TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

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### MEDIA ADVISORY

## Plans for Yankee invasion revealed!

The Civil War in Texas focus of Save Texas History Symposium Sept. 15

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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AUSTIN — By land and by sea, Federal troops invaded Texas four times during the War Between the States. They never once succeeded.

Why and how Texas became one of just two southern states to succeed at fending off northern aggression is just one of the topics sure to fire debates and imaginations at the Third Annual Save Texas History Symposium.

*The Civil War in Texas: Death, Disease and Minié Balls* is from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, September 15 at the Thompson Conference Center, 2405 E. Campus Drive, Austin, Texas. The symposium brings together top scholars and avid history buffs for a full day's worth of lectures, activities and discussions about our beloved state's history.

"Texas never felt the tread of invaders' boots, but it wasn't because it wasn't tried," said Don Frazier, professor of history at McMurry University and author of several books on the Civil War. "Each time, Texans were the obstacle - Texans and the vastness of the land."

Frazier will reveal the Union's elaborate invasion plans - from the Red River Campaign to the crossing of the Sabine to blockading the ports and more - during his presentation at 9:45 a.m. Other noted scholars will appear as well.

- Rick McCaslin, chairman of the University of North Texas' history department, will elaborate on the bloody clashes over opposition to slavery in Texas at 9 a.m.
- Ed Cotham, a prize-winning author and Civil War lecturer, will bring the Union's capture of Galveston - the Battle of the Bay - to life, retelling the dramatic, nighttime assault on Union troops that recaptured the city at 11 a.m. • Robert Mayberry, a noted *vexillologist and assistant professor at McMurry University*, will discuss the symbolism of Confederate flags in Texas and their meanings now at 1:45 p.m.
- Jerry Thompson, a regents professor of history at Texas A&M International University in Laredo, and Alexander Mendoza, a lecturer at the University of North Texas' history department, will square off at 1 p.m. for a lively discussion about the trials, tribulations and diverging interests that Tejanos had in the outcome of the war.

*Other activities include a tour of the General Land Office's historic archives and map vault, a genealogy workshop, a workshop just for Texas history educators, a hands-on demonstration of surveying techniques and a tour of the Texas State Cemetery.*

*Registration for the symposium is \$50 before Sept. 10, or \$55 with a box lunch. Late registration is \$60. To register online, visit [www.savetexashistory.org](http://www.savetexashistory.org) . Telephone registration is available at 512-463-3289.*

The Texas General Land Office Save Texas History <sup>TM</sup> program is a statewide initiative to rally public support and private funding for the preservation and promotion of more than 35 million historic maps and documents.

Sponsors of this year's symposium are the Summerlee Foundation, the Texas State Historical Association, Frontier Surveying Company, the Texas Society of Professional Surveyors and the Briscoe Center for American History.

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